



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

In Chicago and New York, prices were unchanged. Prices in all other locations were higher on all sizes. The market tone was steady to firm, mostly fully steady to firm. Demand was mixed and in a full range light to good, best for export activity. Supplies were adequate to closely balanced for present needs. Breaking stock offerings were tight to adequate for the quiet to good demand. Breaking schedules were normal to reduced. Light type fowl were fully sufficient for the fair to moderate demand.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN

MIDWEST REGIONAL Iowa-Minnesota-Wisconsin prices to producers were unchanged with the balance of prices 2 cents higher for mediums and 5 cents higher on large and extra large. Trade sentiment was steady to firm, mostly fully steady to firm. Cartoned egg sales were moderate to very good with loose egg demand mostly moderate. Supplies were closely balanced to adequate. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were tight to adequate for the quiet demand. Schedules full-time to part-time. Floor stocks in balance to fully adequate. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	60-67	62-64
LARGE	58-66	60-64
MEDIUM	47-53	50-53

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS

	RANGE
LARGE	43-47
MEDIUM	30-34
SMALL	12-16

MW AREA: IA,IL,IN,KY,MI,MN,OH,NE,ND,SD,WI,WV, WESTERN NY & WESTERN PA

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were higher on all sizes when compared to previous week trading. The market tone was in a full range of steady to firm entering the week. Demand into all channels ranged light to good, best where features were planned or in progress. Supplies were generally adequate and held with confidence. Breaking stock supplies were in balance to occasionally light for the unaggressive demand. Light type hens were fully adequate for mostly normal processing schedules.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	65-79	68-72
LARGE	61-76	66-70
MEDIUM	51-62	52-54

NE AREA: CT,DC,DE,MA,MD,ME,NH,EASTERN NJ,EASTERN PA,RI, NORTHERN VA & VT

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL Prices on larger sizes increased 6 to 8 cents, mediums up 2 to 4 cents. Trade sentiment steady to firm. Retail demand fair to good, best where features are planned or in progress. Food service movement moderate to good. Supplies of all sizes in close balance.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	68-77
LARGE	66-76
MEDIUM	52-59.5

SC AREA: AR,AZ,CO,KS,LA,MO,NM,OK AND TX

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were higher on all sizes when compared to last week. The market tone was fully steady to firm entering the week. Demand was light to instances good. Supplies were adequate for trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were balanced to occasionally light for the unaggressive demand. Light type hens were fully sufficient for mostly normal processing schedules.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	65-76	70-73
LARGE	63-74	68-71
MEDIUM	51.5-59	52-56

SE AREA: AL,FL,GA,MS,NC,SC,EASTERN TN, AND SOUTHERN VA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN

CHICAGO Prices for all sizes unchanged. The market tone was steady to firm. Retail and food service demand was moderate to good, best where features are planned or in progress. Supplies were mixed and being held with confidence.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	66-72
LARGE	64-70
MEDIUM	51-57

NEW YORK Prices were unchanged entering the week. The market tone was fully steady to firm. Retail demand ranged light to at times good, best where promotional activities were in progress. Supplies were generally adequate for current needs.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	76-80
LARGE	74-78
MEDIUM	59-63

WESTERN Prices 5 cents higher on jumbo, extra large, and large, 2 cents higher on medium throughout the region. The Pacific region inventory was 6% lower than last week with California down 10% and Oregon-Washington-Utah up 1%. Retailer demand fairly good. Offerings in good balance.

CALIFORNIA Prices 5 cents higher on jumbo, extra large, and large, 2 cents higher on medium and small. The California inventory was 10% lower than last week. Retailer demand moderate to fairly good. Offerings in good balance. Small benchmark price 65. Ads in Northern California: major- large 18 pack 2 for \$3, buy 1 get 1 free.

	RANGE
JUMBO	110
EXTRA LARGE	105
LARGE	99
MEDIUM	85

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA		NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	
	RANGE		RANGE
JUMBO	259-319	JUMBO	249-299
EXTRA LARGE	249-319	EXTRA LARGE	229-269
LARGE	209-219	LARGE	209-245
MEDIUM	179-199	MEDIUM	179-209

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending February 28, 2003 will decrease by 1 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending February 21, 2003 were 261,551 cases which was 6 percent above the prior week and 2 percent above estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	221,683	39,868	261,551

% change from the prior week.....	+7	-2	+6

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 16 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Prices remained unchanged. Demand was light for the close to adequate offerings. Schedules full-time to part-time. Floor stocks in balance to fully adequate. Trade sentiment steady with a fully steady undertone due to strength in the graded market.

PRICES PAID TO 11:00 AM, MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
NEST RUN	38-40
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	26-31
CENTRAL STATES AREA:	
AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI	

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate for the generally sufficient offerings. Processing schedules were reported as normal. The undertone was generally steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)*
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER
THE WEEK OF 24-FEB-03.

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.5-9.5 CENTS/LB.	7-8.5	8.04
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Values were generally unchanged compared to the past week. Demand for heavy hens was moderate. Offerings were at least adequate. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was about steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)*
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER
THE WEEK OF 24-FEB-03.

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	5.75-10 CENTS/LB.	7.5-8.5	8.09

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-AM FEB 24, 2003

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/ 2/

(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		NO	SO	SO	5-Area	
	Northeast	CENT	CENT	Atl	Pacific	
Jumbo	Curr Wk	10.8	19.1	7.2	13.7	63.8
	Change	0.1	-0.4	-0.8	0.2	-2%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	22.5	43.4	16.6	24.2	132.6
	Change	0.9	-7.8	1.8	-5.2	-8%
Large	Curr Wk	34.0	82.9	62.5	92.4	369.6
	Change	-3.5	-11.6	8.6	-2.3	-6%
Medium	Curr Wk	14.2	41.2	17.0	20.7	113.4
	Change	-0.9	-3.8	-1.2	1.0	-5%
Small	Curr Wk	3.5	7.9	1.2	8.0	25.4
	Change	0.7	-0.3	0.4	2.4	25%
Misc	Curr Wk	3.9	23.2	9.7	11.1	53.9
	Change	0.9	-0.5	-1.0	-0.4	-2%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	21.4	62.1	20.6	35.2	169.6
	Change	4.2	-3.5	3.0	-2.6	3%
Total	Curr Wk	110.3	279.8	134.8	205.3	928.3
Percent	Change	2%	-9%	9%	-3%	-4%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	928.3	-4%	175
Shell Egg Breaking Stock 2/	274.1	2%	38
Total Shell Egg	1202.4	-2%	213

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 175 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

2/ Due to changes in the cooperator universe, the relevant totals for the previous week were ADJUSTED. This adjustment is necessary to facilitate valid comparisons. The revised figures are:

	NO	SO	SO	5-AREA
NORTHEAST	CENT	CENT	ATL	PACIFIC
107.9	307.7	124.0	212.2	211.4
				963.2

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

CANADIAN EGGS MONTREAL: WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE TO RETAILERS (CANADIAN CENTS) GRADED IN CARTONS, AS REPORTED BY CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 10, 2003

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	195.2	192.1	183.1	114.6

MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES FOB FARM FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING FEBRUARY 10, 2003 AS ESTABLISHED BY ONTARIO EGG AND FOWL PRODUCERS MARKETING BOARD.

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	151	151	141	77

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — DAILY WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR FEBRUARY 21, 2003

CURRENT LOADS			8.00			FUTURE LOADS			24.25			TOTAL LOADS			32.25		
SE			NE		MW		LOADS	SC			NW		SW		LOADS		
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST		CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST			
GNR W 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	7.00	GL W J	—	—	—	—	—	72.50	2.00		
GL W J	—	—	—	—	61.50	—	2.00	GL W XL	—	—	—	—	—	63.75	2.00		
GL W XL	—	—	—	—	54.00	—	7.25	GL W LG	—	—	—	—	—	62.50	2.00		
GL W LG	—	—	—	—	53.00	—	6.00	GL W MD	—	—	—	—	—	53.00	1.00		
GL W MD	—	—	—	—	45.00	—	6.00										
GL W SM	—	—	32.00	33.00	—	—	1.00										
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.00										

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 02/17/03-02/21/03

CURRENT LOADS			108.75		FUTURE LOADS			99.75		TOTAL LOADS			208.50			
SE				NE		MW				SC		NW		MW		
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	
GNR W 1	41.67	50.36	43.00	45.33	49.86	—	78.00	GNR W 1	—	54.90	—	—	—	57.50	29.00	
GNR W 2	—	53.00	—	—	—	—	2.00	GNR W 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00	
GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	—	37.00	1.00	GNR BR 1	74.00	—	—	—	—	—	4.00	
GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	80.00	3.00	GL W J	—	—	—	—	—	69.42	6.50	
GL W J	—	—	64.50	66.00	58.56	—	9.50	GL W XL	—	60.00	—	64.17	—	63.74	20.25	
GL W XL	51.00	64.14	56.00	58.51	55.63	54.00	52.50	GL W LG	—	58.33	—	62.50	67.00	64.26	24.25	
GL W LG	63.00	64.06	53.00	55.56	56.02	—	52.50	GL W MD	44.00	47.22	43.00	44.00	—	51.72	18.25	
GL W MD	—	48.64	40.20	42.00	43.13	—	24.25	GL W SM	—	27.00	—	—	—	—	1.00	
GL W SM	32.25	33.50	30.17	32.33	—	—	4.00									
GL BR LG	—	—	—	—	78.00	81.00	1.75									
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	39.00	36.00	40.00	21.25									
NRBS - 39	—	—	20.00	22.00	—	28.50	6.25									

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS (In Thousands)

ON HAND	02/17/03	02/10/03	02/18/02
PACIFIC COAST	629	381	427
LOS ANGELES	589	338	384

NORTH CAROLINA EGGS The market is steady on Small and higher on the balance. Supply is adequate to meet the moderate demand. PRICES WEIGHTED AVERAGE, IN SMALL LOTS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, NEARBY RETAIL OUTLET, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	84.64
LARGE	82.64
MEDIUM	71.09
SMALL	54.27

HONOLULU, OAHU-WHITE SHELL EGGS

Receipts from the mainland: 02/09/03-02/15/03
30-dozen case 7,385

Receipts from the mainland: 02/02/03-02/05/03
30-dozen case 4,507

CHICKENS AND EGGS January Egg Production Up 1 Percent

U.S. egg production totaled 7.34 billion during January 2003, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.25 billion table eggs and 1.08 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.02 million were broiler-type and 64.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during January 2003 averaged 338 million, up slightly from a year earlier. January egg production per 100 layers was 2,170 eggs, compared to 2,143 eggs in January 2002.

January 2003 contained 23 weekdays, two holidays and four Saturdays, the same as January 2002.

All layers in the U.S. on February 1, 2003, totaled 339 million, up slightly from a year ago. The 339 million layers consisted of 279 million layers producing table type eggs, 56.3 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.71 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on February 1, 2003, averaged 70.1 eggs per 100 layers, up 2 percent from a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 6.86 billion eggs during January 2003, up 1 percent from a year ago. The average number of layers during January, at 316 million, was down 1 percent from a year ago.

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